

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (New) A method of operating a wireless network, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source, by a network device of said wireless network, during normal operation of said wireless network, wherein, while detecting, said network device does not send data to another network device of said wireless network; and

changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein said step of detecting is performed by at least one further network device of said wireless network, and

said further network device does not send data to another network device of said wireless network.

16. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein said step of detecting is performed during a non-transmission period of a MAC frame.

17. (New) The method according to claim 14, further comprising:

setting a transmitting power level of said network device such that a receiving power level at said another network device lies between a first threshold and a second threshold.

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein in the step of setting the transmitting power level, said first threshold is set to comply with a sensitivity specified according to a standard of the wireless network.

19. (New) The method according to claim 17 or 18, wherein in the step of setting the transmitting power level, said second threshold represents a detection level of radar signals, radar signals having a higher signal level than said detection level are detectable with a first detection rate, and radar signals having a lower signal level than said detection level are detectable with a second detection rate, said first detection rate being higher than said second detection rate.

20. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein, upon detection of said at least one signal of said external radio source, said network device sends a first message to a central controlling network device of said wireless network, said first message indicating that said at least one signal has been detected.

21. (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein, when said central controlling network device has received said first message, said central controlling network device sends an acknowledge message to said network device.

22. (New) A computer-readable storage medium having embedded therein instructions that cause a computer to execute a method of operating a network device of a wireless network, comprising:

detecting at least one signal of an external radio source, by a network device of said wireless network, during normal operation of said wireless network, wherein, while

detecting, said network device does not send data to another network device of said wireless network; and

changing a communication channel or frequency band, if said at least one signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.

23. (New) A network device of a wireless network, comprising:

an RF unit adapted to receive a radar signal of an external radio source, and to send/receive a data signal of said wireless network;

a radar detector adapted to detect a presence of said radar signal, during normal operation of said wireless network, while said RF unit does not send the data signal to another network device of said wireless network; and

a micro processor adapted to change a communication channel or frequency band of said RF unit, if said radar signal overlaps with a currently used communication channel or frequency band.